

April 18, 2023

## 2023 HUMAN TRAFFICKING SUMMIT

SAN DIEGO

SUMMIT TAKES THE HT CONVERSATION TO NEW HEIGHTS

by Amy Tan and Jennifer Rodems



**RMIN**

P.O. Box 41370  
Phoenix, AZ 85080-1370  
www.rmin.riss.net

**Amy Tan, CFE, CCIA**

Criminal Analyst Supervisor  
800.821.0640, ext. 183  
atan@rmin.riss.net

**Jennifer Rodems, CFE, CCIA**

Intelligence Research Supervisor  
800.821.0640, ext. 127  
jrodems@rmin.riss.net

**“Opened my eyes to investigatory strategies and techniques involved in [human trafficking]”**

The 7th Annual RISS Western Region Human Trafficking Summit was held in beautiful San Diego, California, at the end of March 2023. This summit was unique due to the Western States Information Network (WSIN) graciously inviting the Rocky Mountain Information Network (RMIN) to partner with them. The Human Trafficking Summit is a multi-day training event geared towards law enforcement professionals.

The summit covers topics that equip individuals and their agencies to build stronger human trafficking cases and provide essential resources to survivors. The partnership between WSIN and RMIN resulted in the best summit yet, with 533 paid attendees representing 240 agencies from 18 U.S. states and Canada.



The summit included one-and-a-half days of general sessions and two full days of break-out sessions. These training sessions covered a wide array of topics, including successful sex buy sting operations, effective interviewing techniques, cryptocurrency, how to utilize technology during undercover operations, discussion of the survivor’s perspective, and how to aid in prosecution. Several of these sessions were sponsored by well-known organizations involved in the fight against human trafficking.



**2023 SESSION TOPICS:**

- Success and Failure: How We Learn to Be Better Investigators/Prosecutors
- The Victimless Proactive Trafficker Intervention
- G6 Hospitality Resources for HT Investigators
- How to do a Successful Sex Buy Sting
- Online UC Chatting
- The Digital Witness
- A Survivor’s Perspective
- Snapchat Investigations
- Follow the Money/Phones
- Effective Interviewing
- DHS Resources and the Center for Countering Human Trafficking
- Intelligence Led Policing and Labor Trafficking
- Cops and Advocates Know Your Resources
- Step by Step Guide in Technology
- Understanding Cryptocurrency in Criminal Investigations
- State to Federal HT Investigations



**“Wow! The connections and information gained in this conference was invaluable.”**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

From start to finish, this year’s summit had many highlights, including an opening ceremony featuring an honor guard, bagpipes, and the National Anthem, and several daily prize drawings. There was also a networking event with delicious food and great company where attendees mingled and got to know one another. Additionally, the vendor show was an excellent opportunity for attendees to familiarize themselves with various programs and equipment that could aid their investigations.

**NEXT SUMMIT**

The 2023 summit was a huge success. WSIN and RMIN look forward to continuing their partnership with plans for the next summit underway. The 2024 RISS Western Region Human Trafficking Summit will be held in Chandler, Arizona, at the Gila River Resorts and Casinos – Wild Horse Pass. The dates of the summit are April 28 through May 2, 2024. The 2024 summit will include new instructors with fresh topics. We hope you will join us and continue the fight against human trafficking.

**VIDEO: HUMAN TRAFFICKING SUMMIT 2023**



This project was supported by Grant No. 15PBJA-21-GG-00350-RISS awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.